



News Release

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For immediate release:
May 30, 2017

Chief Justice Names Judge Alberto Rivas Assignment Judge of Middlesex Vicinage

Chief Justice Stuart Rabner today announced that Superior Court Judge Alberto Rivas will lead the Middlesex Vicinage, effective July 1. Rivas will succeed Assignment Judge Travis L. Francis, who is retiring after 25 years on the bench and 10 years as assignment judge.

“Judge Francis has distinguished himself as a jurist of great intellect with a passion for the law. He will be missed not only in the Middlesex Vicinage, which he has served for the past 25 years, but also throughout New Jersey’s legal system,” Chief Justice Rabner said.

“Judge Rivas has done an outstanding job leading the vicinage’s criminal division. He is a highly respected jurist who possesses strong leadership skills that will enable him to thrive in his new role.”

In more than seven years at the Middlesex Vicinage, Judge Rivas has served on the bench in the civil, family and criminal divisions. He was named presiding judge of the criminal division in February 2015.

“I am humbled and honored at the confidence the Chief has expressed in me,” Judge Rivas said. “I look forward to working with our talented group of jurists and staff.”

Judge Rivas was appointed to the bench by Gov. Jon Corzine and took the oath of judicial office on Jan. 25, 2010. Prior to his judicial career, Judge Rivas worked for nine years as an assistant United States attorney in Newark, the last three years as deputy chief of the office’s criminal division. He also worked as the law director of the City of Perth Amboy and as a partner in the law firm of Lite, DePalma, Greenberg & Rivas. During that time, Judge Rivas served as a member of the New Jersey State Sentencing Commission and as a court-appointed independent monitor reviewing the New Jersey State Police.

A 1982 graduate of Princeton University, Judge Rivas earned his law degree at the Rutgers University School of Law. He lives in Perth Amboy.

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